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THE
ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
SELECTMEN, AUDITORS, TREASURER,
AND
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF THE TOWN OF WINDHAM,
For the Financial Year ending March 1st, 1866.

NASHUA:
WHITTEMORES' PRESS.
1866.

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THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR

1900

IN THE

UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

WASHINGTON

REPORT.

MONEY RECEIVED AND HIRED

by the Selectmen to pay Notes, Interest, &c.

		DR.
1865.		
March 27th,	received of J. P. Crowell,	\$200 00
Apr. 5th,	received of Benj. E. Blanchard,	142 01
"	hired of Wm. C. Harris, town agent,	114 40
"	received " " interest back to Jan. 1st,	1 40
"	8th, hired of Hiram S Reynolds,	200 00
"	12th, hired of Frederic J. Hughes,	250 00
May 15th,	received of Eliza Hills,	100 00
"	" " an order on town treasurer,	400 00
July 3d,	hired of John Hills,	50 00
"	" Eliza Hills,	100 00
"	" S. Campbell for Crowell heirs,	150 00
Sept. 6th,	" " " " " " " " " " " "	400 00
"	16th, " Theodore Dinsmoor,	105 00
"	" " Harriet Dinsmoor,	30 00
Oct. 16th,	received of State treas. cash on note,	1000 00
"	" received of State treas. interest on note,	68 67
"	23d, hired of David Crowell,	100 00
Nov. 13th,	received of State treasurer, reimbursement of State aid	1303 85
Nov. 22d,	hired of Helen F. Knight,	400 00
1866.		
Jan. 3d,	received of State treas., cash on note,	300 00
"	" " " " " " " " " " " "	26 88

Feb. 17th, hired of Eliza Hills,	90 00
“ 26th, received an order on town treas.	607 53
March 2d, money received from the hands of the former board of Selectmen for 1864,	109 32
	\$6249 06

MONEY PAID BY THE SELECTMEN.

1865.

CR.

April 7th, paid Ella Jaquith's note,	300 00
“ “ “ “ interest,	7 50
May 6th, “ R. M. Campbell's notes,	679 00
“ “ “ “ interest,	79 02
“ 15th, “ Benja. F. Bean's note,	250 00
“ “ “ “ interest,	12 65
July, paid Mary F. Fegan's note,	600 00
“ “ “ “ interest,	35 61
Oct., “ Jesse Crowell's note,	700 00
“ “ “ “ interest,	56 48
“ “ Theodore Dinsmoor's note,	105 00
“ “ “ “ interest,	50
“ “ Caleb G. Wiley's note,	200 00
“ “ “ “ interest,	17 00
“ “ Lewis Ripley's note,	200 00
“ “ “ “ interest,	17 79
“ “ Betsey Dustin's note,	600 00
“ “ “ “ interest,	41 20
Nov. “ Harriet Dinsmoor's note,	30 00
“ “ “ “ interest,	30
“ “ Ira Sanborn's note,	400 00
“ “ “ “ interest,	25 67
Sept. 16th, T. W. Simpson, W. Cochran, H. Steel, committee on re- modeling the old meeting house,	335 12
“ “ T. W. Simpson, W. Cochran, H. Steel, interest,	6 26
Interest paid on outstanding notes,	815 04
Paid State aid to families of volunteers,	343 82
“ Committee for appraising pews in old meeting house,	7 00
“ Margaret W. Nichols board at N. H. Insane Asylum,	42 13
“ A. W. Sawyer & Stevens on Lucin- da Evans' case,	18 00
“ G. Y. Sawyer on James Anderson case,	50 00

Paid Wm. Lund for part of day's work on bridge near Mr. Blanchard's in 1864,	75	
" Car fare for Mr. ——— to Canada,	13	10
" G. Y. Sawyer, for advice,	1	00
		5989 94
Cash in hands of Selectmen,		259 12
		\$6249 06

MONEY RECEIVED FROM TOWN TREAS. AND COLLECTOR, &C.

Cash in treasury, March 6, 1865,	77	49
Am't due from J. W. Dinsmoor, col. for 1863,	100	00
" " " Rei Hills, " " 1864, 1948	71	
" " " State treas, R. R. tax for 1864,	197	27
" " " School dist. No. 1, for assessing and collecting school house tax in 1864 and 1865,	18	25
" of railroad tax for 1865,	320	07
" tax from Saving banks,	53	93
" Literary money received,	20	60
" receiv'd of county for support of poor,	299	34
" due from Rei Hills, col. for 1865, being the amount of tax assessed for '65,	6779	35
" of interest received of Rei Hills, col. 1864,	55	43
" interest received of J. W. Dinsmoor, col. 1863,	5	90
		\$9876 34

PAID FOR EDUCATION.

School Dist. No. 1,	114	34
" " " 2,	126	87
" " " 3, due 6.72 being literary money for 1864,	89	63
" " " 4,	50	73
" " " 5, due 11.59 being liter- ary money for 1864-5,	71	82
" " " 6,	82	53
" " " 7,	38	56
R. J. Hopkins's place for 1864, \$2.24 and 1865, \$2.58,	4	82
" " " 1863, literary money,	30	
		\$579 60

PAID FOR ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Isaac Emerson, labor on highway in spring '64,	3 35	
Jonathan Stickney, labor on bridge near Mr. Whitney's,	1 50	
Rei Hills, for building stone bridge near J. N. Brown's mill and furnishing rails for sides,	53 87	
William Pecker, repairing highway near J. N. Brown's mill,	15 75	
Charles E. Buttrick, for repairing highway,	7 00	
William Anderson, for repairing bridge and furnishing lumber in 1864,	5 00	
James Emerson, for plank, 180 feet,	3 60	
		\$90 07

PAID FOR SNOW PATHS.

William Anderson,	8 74	
Charles E. Buttrick,	17 00	
William Pecker,	75	
David Alexander,	4 00	
Samuel W. Simpson,	3 50	
Michael Goodwin,	2 13	
Nathaniel Ripley,	11 50	
Isaac P. Cochran,	1 75	
Olin Parker,	8 75	
N. H. Clark,	5 37	
Jonathan Stickney,	10 11	
Joseph S. Clark,	2 00	
Daniel Wyman,	12 50	
James Emerson,	2 62	
		\$90 72

PAID NON-RESIDENT HIGHWAY RECEIPTS.

Rei Hills, collector for 1865,	39 35	
Sylvanus Brown, 1864,	3 44	
		\$42 79

PAID FOR ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Theodore Dinsmoor for 1864,	7 41	
Ebenezer B. Smith, "	4 48	
James Anderson, "	8 64	
Wm. P. Simpson, "	23 52	
Rei Hills, collector for 1864,	39 30	
Wm. C. Harris, for 1864-65,	14 78	
James Park, "	8 17	
Robert P. Morrison, "	13 83	
		\$120 13

PAID TOWN OFFICERS.

Joseph P. Crowell, balance for services for	
Selectman for 1864,	14 50
Isaiah W. Haseltine, bal services 1864,	8 50
Benja. E. Blanchard, " " "	13 90
Rei Hills, for 40½ days services as select-	
man for 1865,	60 75
Samuel Campbell, " " '65,	46 63
John A. Moor, " " "	40 75
Wm. C. Harris, treas. and moderator "	13 00
George W. Weston, town clerk "	20 00
Dr. C. S. Boynton, super. school com.,	25 00
Rei Hills, for collecting in 1865,	91 52

 \$334 55

MISCELLANEOUS.

Paid J. E. Armstrong, expenses to Ports-	
mouth in 1864,	4 30
J. M. Palmer, expenses to Portsmouth '64,	4 30
Olin Parker, " " "	4 30
George W. Hughes, " "	4 30
James E. Armstrong, damage to sled,	3 00
C. F. Livingston, for printing town reports	
for 1864,	35 28
Rei Hills, for use of horse and wagon,	10 00
" " " books and stationery,	9 08
" " " money paid for car fare and	
expenses,	11 05
" " " money paid for counsel,	4 00
" " " use of public watering trough,	3 00
Samuel Campbell, for use of horse and wagon,	5 50
" " car fare and other expenses,	8 25
John A. Moor, for use of horse,	4 50
Wm. C. Harris, interest on town notes,	34 34
Wm. Warledge, for use of public watering	
trough,	3 00
E. Lewis, for clearing brush from grave yard,	5 00
" " taking care town and hearse	
house,	4 50

 \$157 70

PAID FOR MEDICAL ATTENDANCE.

Dr. D. O. Smith, at almshouse in 1863,	13 00
" " in regard to Wm. P. Simp-	
son's case,	4 00
Dr. Wm. J. Campbell, for 1865,	4 00

 \$21 00

SUPPLIES FURNISHED COUNTY POOR NOT AT ALMSHOUSE.

Susan Whitney,	2 86	
Wood,	4 00	
		\$6 86

AID FURNISHED INDIGENT FAMILIES.

Mrs. Wilson, supplies,	5 00	
" " wood,	2 50	
		\$7 50

ALMSHOUSE.

Paid Hiram S. Reynolds for supplies,	125 00	
" " " superintendent one year's salary, ending March 28th, '65,	225 00	
		\$350 00
Paid notes and interest,		1007 53
The above payments amounting to		\$2808 45
Paid State tax,		2100 00
" County tax,		583 42
Cash in treasury,		456 51
Due from J. W. Dinsmoor, col. for 1863,		50 00
" " Rei Hills, " " 1864,		64 39
" " " " " 1865,		3813 57
		\$9876 34

NOTES AGAINST THE TOWN.

1863.	
Jan. 29th, Samuel Campbell,	225 00
Feb. 24th, Sally Caldwell,	100 00
" " Sally Carr,	100 00
Sept. 14th, Thomas A. Rowell,	400 00
Nov. 20th, B. F. Simpson,	3000 00
Dec. 10th, Samuel Campbell,	100 00
Feb. 26, 1864, Samuel Campbell,	165 00
" " " Sally Carr,	100 00
" " " John Hills,	82 00
" 29th, " Hannah J. Davidson,	44 00
July 11th, " Jesse Crowell's heirs,	300 00
Aug. 22, " Sarai Armstrong,	400 00
" 26, " Hannah J. Davidson,	50 00
" 29, " Hiram S. Reynolds,	675 00
Sept. 17, " Thomas Ellenwood,	600 00
" " " Zelpha Ellenwood,	200 00
" 22, " Silas Armstrong,	800 00

Oct. 20, 1864, Sally Carr,	80 00
" 21, " Sally Caldwell,	50 00
" 22, " John Hills,	100 00
" 28, " Jerusha Kelley,	300 00
" 31, " Wm. C. Harris,	155 00
Nov. 21, " N. A. Randlett,	1000 00
" 23, " " "	200 00
" 29, " F. D. Anderson,	200 00
Dec. 3, " Thomas Nesmith,	5000 00
" 19, " Nancy Taylor,	1400 00
Dec. 29, " F. D. Anderson,	100 00
Jan. 1st, 1865, Wm. C. Harris, town agent,	114 40
" 10, " Robert Armstrong,	100 00
Apr. 12, " Frederic J. Hughes,	250 00
" 8, " Hiram S. Reynolds,	200 00
July 3, " John Hills,	50 00
" " " Jesse Crowell's heirs,	150 00
" 14, " Thomas A. Rowell,	1000 00
" " " Jacob Rowell,	1000 00
Sept. 6, " Jesse Crowell's heirs,	400 00
Oct. 23, " David Crowell,	100 00
Nov. 22, " Helen F. Knight,	400 00
" 23, " Zelpha Ellenwood,	200 00
Dec. 29, " J. A. M. Johnson,	200 00
March 1, 1866, Eliza Hills,	1078 00
" " " Clarissa Hills,	703 00
Amount,	\$21871 40
Interest on the above,	859 05
	\$22,730 45

SUMMARY.

	DR.
Amount of money received to pay notes and interest,	6249 06
	CR.
Amount paid,	5989 94
In hands of Selectmen,	259 12

	DR.
Amount received from Treasurer, Collectors, &c.	9876 34

	PAID.	CR.
For Education,		579 60
“ Roads and bridges,		90 07
“ Snow paths,		90 72
“ Non-resident highway receipts,		42 79
“ Abatement of taxes,		120 13
“ Medical Attendance,		21 00
“ County poor not at almshouse,		6 86
“ Indigent “ “ “		7 50
“ Almshouse,		350 00
“ Town Officers,		334 55
“ Miscellaneous,		157 70
“ State tax,		2100 00
“ County tax,		583 42
“ In treasury,		456 51
“ Due from Collectors,		3927 96
“ Notes and interest,		1007 53
		\$9876 34

INVENTORY AT ALMSHOUSE.

Feb. 22, 1866.

1 Horse,	60 00
1 pair oxen,	225 00
5 Cows,	180 00
12 Sheep,	50 00
2 Shoats,	50 00
16 Fowls,	8 00
4 tons English hay,	70 00
5 tons Meadow hay, corn fodder and straw,	40 00
1 Hay cutter,	6 00
11 bushels Oats,	6 60
25 “ Corn,	25 00
2 “ Beans,	5 00
Meal,	2 50
Flour,	4 00
2 Shovels, 4 hoes and 2 manure forks,	5 00
Hay rack, horse rake and haying tools,	20 00
Harness and sleigh bells,	11 00
Ox yokes, muzzles and horse fetters,	4 50
4 Plows, harrow and Cultivator,	13 00
4 draft chains, 2 ring chains, Iron bar and whiffletree, and chain,	5 00
Ox cart and Sled,	20 00
Horse wagon and sleigh,	20 00
5 Axes, beetle, 4 wedges and Grindstone,	6 00

Carpenters' tools and wood saw,	12 00
1 Steel trap,	1 00
2 Wheelbarrows,	1 50
Lot of lumber,	10 00
Stove and furniture,	11 00
500 lbs. pork,	100 00
75 " beef,	7 50
27 " candles,	5 50
22 " butter,	9 00
Salt,	50
76 lbs. lard,	15 00
75 bushel potatoes,	45 00
Onions,	1 00
2 stone pots,	1 00
6 Meat and cider barrels,	4 00
Wash tubs and churn,	1 75
Soap and barrel,	2 00
Vinegar and barrel,	1 00
Keg and Molasses,	75
Coffee and Sugar,	75
Silver spoons and spectacles,	3 50
Stocking yarn,	4 00
Baskets and measures,	1 50
Beds and bedding,	73 00
Household furniture,	32 00
17 Milk pans, 4,00 ; 2 milk pails and cream pots, .50,	4 50
Lantern and matches,	3 00
36 lbs. wool,	12 00
Clothes Wringer,	9 50

Amount, \$1209 85

ALMSHOUSE BALANCE SHEET.

Feb. 24, 1865.

	DR.	
Personal property at Almshouse,	1376 62	
To amount drawn from treasurer,	125 00	
For one year's salary of Superintendent,	225 00	
To bills paid by Superintendent,	477 64	
		\$2204 26
To outstanding bills,	82 41	
To cash in Superintendent's hands,	57 85	
		\$140 26
		\$2344 52

	CR.	
By sundries sold by Superintendent,	217 67	
Received for labor done off the farm,	129 27	
Received for support of county poor,	299 34	
Due from county,	123 25	
Personal property at almshouse Feb. 22, 1866,	1209 85	
Sundry outstanding bills and note,	87 66	
Cash in Superintendent's hands,	46 90	
		\$2113 94
Balance against town,		\$230 58

TREASURER'S REPORT

<i>For the year ending March 1st, 1866.</i>	DR.
1865, March 6, money in treasury,	77 49
March 20, received of Rei Hills, collector for 1864,	862 98
April 5, " " " " " "	26 31
June 5, " " " " " "	32 00
Sept. 8, " Railroad tax for " "	197 27
1866, Jan. 17, received literary money for 1865,	20 60
Feb. 10, " of county for support of paupers for 1865,	299 34
" 14, rec'd of Rei Hills, collector for the year 1864,	179 99
" 24, " " " " " "	564 69
" " " school district No. 1, it being for assessing and collecting school taxes in the year 1864 and 1865,	18 25
" 26, received tax from Savings Banks for 1865,	53 93
" " " Railroad tax for the year, "	320 07
" " " of Rei Hills, col. for the year 1864,	273 78
" " " " " " 1865,	282 36
" 27, " J. W. Dinsmoor, col. 1863,	55 90
Total,	\$3264 96

	CR.
By paid 79 orders amounting to	2808 45
" money in treasury,	456 51
Total,	\$3264 96

The following sums are due to the Treasurer :

Due from J. W. Dinsmoor, col. for 1863,	50 00
" " Rei Hills, " 1864,	64 39
" " " " " 1865,	3813 57
	\$3927 96
Amount of unsettled orders,	39 14
Balance in favor of treasury,	\$3888 82

Included in the money now in the treasury is the tax received from owners of dogs for the years 1863 and '64, amounting to \$66 00
 In the amount due from Collector for 1865 is also included the dog tax for the same year, but of the amount the Treasurer is not informed.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM C. HARRIS, Treasurer.

Windham, March 1st, 1866.

The undersigned have examined the above accounts and find them correctly cast.

W. D. COCHRAN, }
 R. P. MORRISON, } Auditors.

BALANCE SHEET. DR.

Amount of notes against the town,	21871 40	
Interest on the above notes,	859 05	
Outstanding orders and estimated bills,	150 00	
Literary money due district No. 5, \$11.59,		
and No. 3, \$6.72;	18 31	
		\$22,898 76

CR.

By unsettled taxes,	3927 96	
" note and interest against State,	1625 00	
" State aid due from State,	343 82	
" due from County,	123 25	
" cash in treasury,	456 51	
" cash in Selectmen's hands,	259 12	
" *Government bounty due on account of volunteers,	2160 00	
		\$8895 66
Town debt,		\$14,003 10

* Owing to deaths, desertions and other causes, the amount that may be realized from the above is very uncertain.

Respectfully submitted.

REI HILLS,	} Selectmen of Windham.
SAMUEL CAMPBELL,	
JOHN A. MOORE,	

The undersigned have examined the above accounts and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

W. D. COCHRAN,	} Auditors.
R. P. MORRISON,	

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE TOWN OF WINDHAM, N. H., 1866.

FELLOW CITIZENS:—Among the various interests of a public nature which claim your attention at the Annual Town Meeting, *the Schools* must ever stand among those which demand your most serious consideration.

The Pilgrim Fathers had no sooner placed their feet upon the shores of New England, than they set themselves to work to establish the foundation of those institutions which we now so fully enjoy, and which have made us so prosperous as a people. They had no sooner fulfilled the first great duty devolving on them as Christian men, in erecting the Sanctuary of the Most High, in which they could worship “according to the dictates of their own consciences,” than they also erected, within the shadow of the Sanctuary, the School House and established the Free School, that the benign influence of the one might bless the other; declaring at the outset that the *people* were the *Government*, they were solicitous that each generation, mentally as well as morally, should be fitted for the great responsibilities which would inevitably devolve upon it. To this end they sought to so educate their children, that they might more than fill the places left vacant for them,—that they in their turn might transmit their inheritance, made more precious by the added value they should give it.

It is not enough that a community admit the fact of the importance of the School; it must be acted upon. For no system of public policy is so sensitive to public opinion, as the school system, and none yields so speedily to the indifference and neglect of the public. It must be fostered by liberality of expenditure, the ranks of its teachers must be scrutinized, and the worthy only suffered to discharge its duties; and love for its exercises and regularity of attendance must be secured on the part of the young recipients of its benefits.

The Children! seeming in the view of the short-sighted and selfish to be objects demanding only the care of the domestic circle in which Providence has placed them; but in view of a liberal and far-seeing policy, which should ever characterize a wise government, they necessarily become the objects of its peculiar care. By them the State is perpetuated. It is their inevitable destiny, in the progress of time, to constitute the State. From them the state must receive its rulers, its statesmen and its teachers, as those who now occupy those places of honor and trust shall pass in the course of time from the scenes of life.

Whatever then is to be the future condition and character of the State; whether it shall be a blessing to the world or a curse; it is their destiny to make it.

Without any further remarks upon this point, we will enter more particularly upon the subject which concerns us at this time—the condition of the schools. The law of the State, which makes it a duty of the Committee to prepare the Annual Report, directs them to make “such suggestions as may be useful upon the management of schools and the subject of education.” And here at the onset, let us say, that we shall not, for the purpose of gratifying friends or offending enemies, deal in either “white-wash” or “blackening”—or, poetically expressed, shall

“———nothing extenuate
Nor aught set down in malice.”

DISTRICT NO. 1.

Robert Armstrong, Prudential Committee.

The Summer and Winter terms were taught by Miss M. L. Cochran, who has taught this school for several terms, and is too well known as a teacher to need commendation from us.

Teacher and pupils worked *together*, and the promptness and proficiency shown at the examination, satisfied the committee that both had labored faithfully.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

Isaiah Haseltine, Prudential Committee.

The Summer and Winter terms of this school were taught by Miss Mary A. Parker, who in the summer term led her pupils along in their various studies in a thorough manner, always preserving good order; and fully sustained her reputation as a faithful teacher.

We wish it were in our power to speak as well of the winter term; not that the teacher was any the less faithful in her duty; but when some of the larger pupils, who are "big enough, old enough, and ought to know better," not liking her mild requirements, are more disposed to "have their own way" than to yield a ready obedience, then the task of the teacher is a hard one and if the order is not so good the blame rests not on the teacher, but on those larger pupils whose duty it is to *help* keep order rather than *hinder*.

But notwithstanding this fault the school at the close evinced good progress and left a good impression on our minds.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

Henry Clark, Prudential Committee.

Summer Term, taught by Miss Ella F. Hughes, a native of the district, who proves that some "prophets have honor even in their own country," for her school was a success which any teacher might be proud of.—At the close all the classes gave evidence of fair progress.

The class in Analysis was the best in town, and those who listened to it, we think will agree with us in giving it the first place.

The Winter term was commenced by Miss C. M. Hunton, who was obliged to leave on account of ill-health, after teaching two weeks.

The term was finished by Miss Ella C. Jaquith, who, although a beginner in the business, conducted it successfully and won the love and esteem of all her pupils.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

Samuel Campbell, Prudential Committee.

Both terms were taught by Miss C. A. Merrill, who belongs to that *genus* known as "live teachers," and we could not look for anything but a live school as a result and were not disappointed. We had no trouble in hearing the pupils, and the answers were given quick and correct.

This school did the best of any in suppressing the *tardy marks*, only one during the Summer term.

DISTRICT NO. 5.

Asa Buttrick, Prudential Committee.

Summer Term—taught by Miss M. Lizzie Morrison, who manifested energy and industry in the school-room, and although she was not able to bring each pupil up to her particular standard, the closing examination indicated diligence and success.

This we say from the report of others, for we were not able to attend the close of the term.

Winter Term—taught by Miss M. J. Emerson. This teacher possessed all the qualifications which render the work of teaching easy and successful, and throughout the term to its close there was pleasing evidence of a well conducted, happy and improving school.

DISTRICT NO. 6.

John Hills, Prudential Committee.

Summer Term—taught by Miss Lizzie S. Tenney.—She labored faithfully, but we are inclined to think that she failed to obtain the love and respect of her pupils, and as a result failed to secure that amount of order which seemed to be necessary to the well being of the school.

She did a great deal for the pupils, perhaps too much, and fair progress was made by most of the School.

Winter Term—taught by Mr. E. J. Whittemore.—The school was fortunate in the selection of this teacher, for he has few equals in the school-room, decided, conscientious and earnest in his work.

He seemed to be impressed with the importance of the work to be done, and applied himself with energy to the accomplishment of the task, and required on the part of his pupils not only obedience and good order, but hard study, diligent and earnest application, which is oftentimes the best preventive to disorder, for the old saying is especially applicable to schools, that

“The devil finds some mischief still for idle hands to do.”

The progress which his pupils have made show that he is master of the situation, and places the school in the first rank.

All the classes were good. The class in the “First Lessons in Grammar” was in our opinion superior to any in town.

DISTRICT NO. 7.

Nathaniel Ripley, Prudential Committee.

Taught by Miss E. L. Kimball, the same teacher as last year, the school was prosperous, some made good use of the school, while others lost much by non-attendance; but those who did attend made good progress and the examination did much credit to teacher and pupils.

Though this is one of the smallest schools in town, its loss from absences is the greatest, being 335 days in a term of eleven weeks. So much money thrown away which a short school can ill afford to lose.

The above is our opinion in regard to the several schools. All have done well, we have had no poor schools; in some the government might have been more strict with benefit to those concerned.

We wish to make a few suggestions upon matters connected with the schools and their management, which if heeded will tend to make the working of the

school system more perfect, and we wish it distinctly understood that in saying what we do we mean no school or teacher in particular, but these remarks, like the "Farmers' Almanac," will do "with a little variation for any latitude," in fact they are defects which exist to some extent in all the schools, but are evils notwithstanding and we ought to try and remedy them.

IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE.—This is a serious evil in all the schools. It should be a rare thing for a pupil to stay away from school half a day during a term; but, as it is, it is deemed worthy of note to find one who does not lose more time than that. The loss from absences as shown by the registers, was for all the schools in Summer, 1157 days; in winter 878 days, making a total for the year of 2035 days, which is equal to the schooling of one pupil, ten months in the year, for *ten years, one month and fifteen days*.

As an inducement to, and a reward for punctuality, we told the pupils in the several schools that in our annual report we would publish a Roll of Honor, including the names of all those who should be present every day in the school term, and, also, the names of those who were not tardy. Such a list is appended to this report and embraces the names of 92 pupils.

There are some whose names would have appeared for one term at least, had they not been prevented by illness. Some did not commence at the beginning of the term, but made a perfect record while they attended. These may be equally worthy, but, by the terms of our statement, their names could not be included in the list.

Perhaps as much has been done to avoid absences and tardy marks this year as ever, but can there not be at least one half of this almost startling amount in the aggregate saved? At least it ought to stimulate us to renewed exertion to reduce the amount as much as possible.

READING.—Although our schools have been taught by well qualified and skillful teachers, yet this very important branch has been poorly taught in many of them, more especially teaching Reading to the younger pu-

pils; they indeed study, or rather buzz their lessons over and over a certain number of times.

But in all this "lip service" there is seldom a definite object in view, and the pupils while reciting are obliged to hesitate, like "Jack Downing," for some neighbor to whisper "Jerusalem" or "skip it," or for the teacher to prompt them. In this manner we have known teachers, and some of them of respectable standing, to do a third of all the reading for the smaller classes. Teachers should be ashamed of such bungling work. It is much like pouring water into a sieve.

SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS.—I well know that here I shall trespass upon the injunction of "O'Phace, Esq.:"

'Tm willing a man should go tollable strong
 Agin wrong in the abstract, for that kind of wrong
 Is allers unpopeler and never gits pitied,
 Because it's a crime no one ever committed.
 But he must'nt be hard on particler sins,
 Coz then he'll be kicking the peoples own shins."

But, soberly, is there not a chance for improvement here. Is not too much valuable time wasted to get up a fine show on the last day?

The glib tongued Aarons mouth out the sayings, while the slow tongued Moses is sure to come on a silent actor in the play.

All acknowledge the truth of this in some places, but "they don't do it in our schools." Happy for you if they do not, but when by a strange freak of fate there is put into your committee's hand a book, with each pupil's particular part marked therein, and when in changing that order he finds all confusion, and when the free breezes of heaven blow into his face, and scatter at his feet papers having upon them examples ready wrought for certain ones to put upon the board, he cannot but think "there is something rotten in Denmark."

A WORD TO PARENTS.—In the school-room the teacher is the power on the throne, but there is a power *behind* the throne, which too often destroys the influence of teachers and defeats their wisest plans.

This is *parental* influence, a power mighty for weal or woe to the character of our schools, according to the

manner in which it is exercised. Then would we entreat parents to strive to know and do their duty on this subject. Remember that your children have intellect to be cultivated, manners to be formed, and morals to be guarded. Remember, too, that this vast work must begin at *home*; and that, if you would have it matured in the *school*, you must *always*, by your aid and sympathy, cooperate with your teacher. Let your children see that you place a *high value* on their school privileges, and they will soon learn to estimate them as you do.

Do not expect perfection of your teachers, and be careful not to speak disparagingly of them to your children.

There are some parents whose influence is happily felt in the school-room. There are others whose apparent confidence in the teacher resembles the good man who habitually slept under the preaching of his pastor, because he was sure all would go on just right. But there is still another class, who express sympathy for their children in their complaints of faithful teachers, by an open disapprobation of the teacher's course; thus alienating the mind of the child, and multiplying and aggravating the occasions for severity of discipline.

In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, all evils arising from these sources would be obviated, by a mutual acquaintance between parents and teachers. This acquaintance should be formed at the fire-side of home, but more especially in the *school-room*.

A WORD TO TEACHERS.—We have known some teachers to spend much time in fault-finding, stamping, scolding and raving, because their pupils were noisy. This is all wrong, only adds to the noise, and makes confusion twice confused.

Those teachers succeed best, who let their "words be few and well chosen." If teachers would regard this motto, and briefly say just what they mean, pupils would soon learn that they mean just what they say.

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEES.—We wish to bear our cheerful testimony to the cordial co-operation, the in-

terest manifested and the personal efforts made by the Prudential Committees throughout the town during the year past, to secure the success of their various schools.

This office has nothing to do with "party." He is to provide for the comfort of the children, and to see to the expenditure of our school money. He should not be taken merely because it is "his turn," nor because he has "a lot of children."

If he never visits the school when not in office, if the boys all hate him, if he thinks "anything" will do for wood or desk, or teacher for "our school," merely because "it is cheap," he is not the man. Nor is he the man if he has some wife's sister, own cousin, or other near of kin, to "hire to keep school" irrespective of undoubted fitness.

The Prudential and Superintending Committees should confer together, and labor together. All candidates should be taken or sent, when application is made, to the Superintending Committee. The examination and decision made by him should be made in the presence of the Prudential Committee.

It would save much trouble to all parties, much mortification to the applicant and friends, much unkind and hurtful talk in the town, if things were done in this way.

For the good of our schools, for the peace of society, we hope each Committee will feel that their work, distinct in specific duties, is one in object, and that there can be no sacrifice of personal respect, no compromise of official responsibility, in a frequent, frank and honest conference upon the best ways of securing this object.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.—There has been a change in the Grammars this year, substituting for the many editions in use Kerl's Common School and First Lessons, and after a trial in the school-room we are satisfied that the change was for the best.

We have other books in the schools which ought to give place for better ones ; or, a better edition of the same book ; this is true of the Arithmetics, much time

is lost because a class has different editions. We hope to see this evil remedied in due time.

As I have not at my command that amount of time necessary to the successful discharge of the duties of Superintendent, therefore I do not wish to be considered a candidate for the office.

On closing my connection with the schools, I would renew my thanks to the many parents and friends of education, from whom I have always received hearty cooperation and sympathy. Such parents by their sympathies and kind wishes, have made my duties doubly pleasant.

I can never forget our teachers, they are a noble class in society. In my labors for the schools I have always received their hearty aid. While the kind treatment and universal respect that I have received from the pupils of the town has taught me to love them.

Let the blessings of education be offered to all ; not in a spirit of almsgiving, but as a high and holy obligation.

With an expansive benevolence and enlarged philanthropy and enlightened patriotism, we should provide for the systematic training of the entire population of our youth to intelligence and virtue.

Thus only can they be prepared for honored citizenship in our yet-to-be glorious republic, with all its high behests and immortal destinies.

Respectfully submitted,

C. S. BOYNTON,

Supt. School Committee.

Windham, March 3d, 1866.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

	District.	Length in weeks.	No. of Pupils.	Average attendance.	Tardiness.	Pupils not absent $\frac{1}{2}$ day.	Visits by S. S. Com.	Visits by Prudential Com.	Visits by others.	Wages per month.
Summer Schools.	1	8	29	27	10	15	2	2	42	\$21.00
	2	12	29	26	18	9	2	1	58	\$29.00
	3	12	19	18	27	7	2		60	\$18.00
	4	12	14	14	1	8	2	1	53	\$18.00
	5	7	23	18	24	6	1	1	28	not given.
	6	12	31	26	34	11	3	1	47	\$20.50
	7	11	15	10	11	3	2		11	\$15.00
Winter Schools.	1	9½	39	35	41	11	3	2	87	not given.
	2	12	36	30	27	3	4		15	\$32.00
	3	8	23	18	12	10	3		29	\$23.00
	4	12	22	19	6	8	3	1	37	\$30.00
	5	7	24	21	29	4	2	1	32	\$20.64
	6	8	33	31	12	14	4	2	35	\$35.00
Total,		130½	337	293	252	109	33	12	534	

A list of names of those Pupils in the several schools who have been present every day in the term without being tardy.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

SUMMER TERM.—Emma J. Armstrong, Luella E. Emerson, Mary E. Armstrong, Emma A. Haseltine, M. Jennie Haseltine, L. Addie Haseltine, Emma S. Hunt, Lizzie L. Dow, Katie E. Haseltine, Clara B. Dinsmoor, Katie A. Dinsmoor, Charles A. Dow, Willie H. Emerson, Charles Haseltine, Edwin Haseltine.

WINTER TERM.—Emma J. Armstrong, Mary E. Armstrong, Clara Dinsmoor, Carrie B. Dinsmoor, Hattie A. Dinsmoor, Lizzie L. Dow, Emma S. Hunt, Mary E. Park, Geo. F. Armstrong, Willie E. Dow, Charles Haseltine, Edwin Haseltine.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

SUMMER TERM.—Alice G. Burnham, Maria E. Haseltine, Ella A. Emerson, Lueva S. Emerson, Eva M. Simpson, Edward Burnham, William H. Emerson, Geo. I. Haseltine, John W. Warledge.

WINTER TERM.—Eva M. Simpson, Wm. H. Coppt.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

SUMMER TERM.—Rosa J. Clark, Martha A. Clark, Florence A. Hughes, Addie V. Hughes, Mary E. Proctor.

WINTER TERM.—Lucinda Holmes, Eliza Esty, Addie V. Hughes, Florence Hughes, Lucian Holmes.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

SUMMER TERM.—Mary J. Crowell, Ella J. Burnes, Elda Crowell, Lottie Reynolds, Calvin D. Crowell, Frank E. Burnes, Oscar O. Armstrong.

WINTER TERM.—Elda Crowell, Ella J. Burnes, Mary E. Reynolds, Oscar O. Armstrong, Albert W. Campbell, Calvin D. Crowell, Fred. J. Crowell, Frank E. Burnes.

DISTRICT NO. 5.

SUMMER TERM.—Carrie M. Terrill, Emma J. Ashby, Ada S. Simpson, Helen S. Simpson, Ellen S. Hills, Jas. H. Barker.

WINTER TERM.—Clara E. Buttrick, Mary B. Titcomb.

DISTRICT NO. 6.

SUMMER TERM.—Esther Bartley, Josephine Bartley, Mary Bartley, Hattie Bartley, Lizzie Bartley, Emma M. Cochran, Ellen Cochran.

WINTER TERM.—Esther Bartley, Josephine Bartley, Mary Bartley, Lizzie Bartley, Lottie Harris, Lizzie Prescott, Mary E. Proctor, John Bartley, Frank Bradford, Clarence Kimball, Charles Nesmith, Geo. Weston, John Tenney.

DISTRICT NO. 7.

Mary J. Ripley.

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